

The Times' Daily Short Story.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAD

(Original.)

When the booming at Sumter fired alike the northern and the southern heart, precipitating civil war, and men of both sides were marching to the front, there was one unwilling volunteer. For a young man Martin Riggs took a very philosophic view of the struggle. He had a theory that if the cause of the war, slavery, were let alone it would die a natural death. Therefore it was very stupid of the people to slaughter each other about it. Holding these views, he took no decided interest in the struggle and did not see why he should enter a contest of which he did not approve. But there is one thing about which no one is philosophic—love. Martin was very much in love with Ethel Birdsey. Ethel caught the war fever at once, and, not being a man to sacrifice herself, she thought it her duty to sacrifice the man she loved, and that was Martin.

"Martin," she said, "it will break my heart, but I must let you go."
"Go where?"
"Why, to the war, of course."
"But supposing I don't want to go to the war?"

Ethel looked at him for a moment in blank surprise, then turned and walked away, saying, "To think that I have loved a coward."

Martin stood looking at her not only with astonishment, but cut to the heart. He had not considered the matter in this light. He had so deep a reverence for the girl he loved that it flashed upon him her words might be true.

"Ethel, I consider you a barbarous way of settling a question."

"But think of the heroism!"

"The generals get all that."

"Well," she said, turning away again, "we don't seem to think alike in the matter, so there's an end on it."

"But, Ethel, there is something more to me just now than the great question involved in this war."

"What's that?" she asked.

"Slavery."

"Why, I thought it was firing on Fort Sumter."

"What is most to me is your love. I shall go for your sake."

And so it was that Martin volunteered and marched away to the war, Ethel waving him a last adieu, tears streaming down her emotional cheeks.

Four years passed and the war was ended. One day a man got off a train at the town from which Martin Riggs had volunteered and walked up the main street. Passing through the village, he struck a road leading to the right and the left and stood deliberating. Just then a man drove by in a hay wagon, and the stranger asked of him:

"Can you tell me where I'll find Miss Birdsey?"

Ethel Birdsey?

"You can't find no such pussen; she's married."

"Married?" The stranger started.

"Yes; she married two years ago."

The stranger stood looking like one who has taken a journey for a purpose and found the purpose has no existence.

"What 'y' want with her?" asked the farmer.

"Well, I have a message for her—that is, I had a message for her, but so long as she's married—"

"Who was it from?"

"A soldier of the late war. We met in Andersonville stockade."

"What was his name?"

"Martin Riggs."

"Oh, yes, I remember. Ethel sent him off to the war. She was very patriotic in them days. She wanted me to go, but I told her I thought I'd continue to do my fighting on the farm with the army worm and such varmints as destroy crops. How's Riggs gittin' along?"

"He's dead."

"Dead? What a fool he was any way. How'd he die?"

"Well, he was all used up. He was nothing but skin and bone, and then he got sick, and with sickness came nostalgia, or homesickness, and to cheer him up I proposed we should tunnel out. We did so and escaped, but the guard discovered us and shot at us. He hit Riggs and I carried him on my shoulder to a hiding place, where he died. Just before the end he told me that he had been fighting for the love of Ethel Birdsey."

"If you ever get out of this and go north," he said, "see her and tell her that I died in trying to be worthy of her."

The stranger paused for a few moments, then added: "There was one thing more he said, but I don't like to repeat that. It's sacred."

"I'd like to hear it, stranger. I won't tell."

"Jim," he whispered, "make the dear girl happy. Take my place."

The farmer sat silent with the loose reins in his hand. He seemed to be thinking hard.

"Stranger," he said presently, "if you'd 'n' come here and found Ethel single she'd 'a' been just the gal to cry over Riggs and be consoled by you. But seein' she's married there's no consol'n' to be done; leastways none in the female line. Ethel's husband wouldn't mind a little of that sort of thing. I'll leave the field open to you."

"How low she'd take the message and Riggs' plan of makin' her happy. Her man's been tryin' to do 't for high on to three years, and the more he's tried the more miserable he's made her."

"You seem to know all about her."

"Why shouldn't I, stranger, seein' 'a' I'm her husband?"

The farmer gave the reins a melancholy shake and drove on. The stranger turned and took the next departing train. JOSEPH H. KING.

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OBJECTS TO OUR SHIPS

Sublime Porte Asks Recall of American Squadron Off Beirut.

REQUEST TO BE DENIED.

Minister Leishman Tells the Sultan's Representative That the United States Will Not Consent to Withdrawal of War Vessels.

Constantinople, Sept. 26.—The Porte has expressed a wish for the withdrawal of the American war ships now off Beirut, "so that the settlement of the questions pending between the United States and Turkey can be proceeded with."

It is thought here that the United States will not consent to withdraw



her ships. Minister Leishman has arranged for a conference with the foreign minister, Tewfik Pasha.

The London Times of Sept. 24 published a letter from Beirut saying that only the presence of the United States squadron there prevented a general massacre of the Christians. The writer says that Yalvly Reshid, who was dismissed as the result of American representations, always sided with the lawless elements. He blackmailed foreign enterprises, shared profits with smugglers and received bribes for the condonation of Moslems' offenses against Christians.

State Department Uninformed.

Washington, Sept. 26.—The state department had no fresh news from Minister Leishman. The American minister has had several conferences with Tewfik Pasha, the Turkish foreign minister, concerning the settlement of the Magellan affair and the American claims against the sultan's government. While definite conclusions have not been reached, no hitch has occurred in the negotiations. On the ground that all is now quiet at Beirut it is not unlikely that the Porte is pressing for the withdrawal of the American ships, but no direct request of this nature has been preferred to the authorities.

BULGARIA'S RUMORED THREAT.

An Ultimatum Said to Have Been Sent to Turkey.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Sept. 26.—Rumors are current here that Bulgaria has sent an ultimatum to Turkey announcing that unless satisfactory assurances are received at once that the Ottoman troops will be withdrawn immediately from the frontier Bulgaria will forthwith mobilize her entire army.

The reports, however, are categorical. They declare that no such ultimatum has been sent. The officials add that the situation is unchanged.

BRITISH INTERVENTION ASKED.

Canon of English Church Appeals in Behalf of Macedonia.

London, Sept. 26.—At an intercession service in behalf of the people of Macedonia, held in one of the city churches, Canon Macleod described the Macedonians as laboring under disabilities rendering them practically outlaws deprived of the elementary rights of humanity.

"Germany, Austria and Russia," he said, "are giving a free hand to the sultan because they have agreed to a partition of Turkey in Europe. Austria is to have a protectorate over Serbia, with half of Macedonia, down to Salonika. Russia will get the other half of Macedonia, with a protectorate over Bulgaria, while Germany will get a slice of Asiatic Turkey and the port of Salonika."

"When all the Christians have been massacred this triumvirate will establish a commercial zollverein and keep out British trade."

Canon Macleod urged immediate British action, believing that the other powers would be compelled to follow suit.

Fourth Class Postmasters.

Washington, Sept. 26.—The following fourth class postmasters have been appointed:

New Jersey—Manalapan, Ezra H. Webb.

Pennsylvania—Mina, K. D. Crumb; Ridgewood, Oscar Klein.

New York—Bundy Crossing, Della A. Boyce; Fay, M. F. Berry.

Elephant Nurses.

In Slam some of the women intrust their children to the care of elephant nurses, and it is said that the trust is never betrayed. The babies play about the huge feet of the elephants, who are very careful never to hurt their little charges.

ADJOURNED TO PREVENT ROW.

President Buchanan Summarily Dismissed Iron Workers' Convention.

Kansas City, Sept. 26.—President Buchanan has adjourned the annual convention of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers without date to prevent what promised to be a serious fight and probably a split over the seating of Daniel Brophy, a Buchanan supporter who held a credential from a Scranton (Pa.) local. The session was held behind closed doors.

Later it was stated that Joseph A. Mullaney, a Parks adherent, had declared that the credential held by Brophy had been forged.

A fight had been made on Brophy by the Parks crowd, and, although he was seated, President Buchanan ruled, to prevent endless debate, that any one wishing to make a protest against any of the delegates might do so in writing.

Such a protest against Brophy, declaring him to be a "scab," was presented. During its consideration a member of the Parks delegation made the sensational declaration that the credential held by Brophy from Scranton had been forged and that it originally bore the name of "J. Reed," which had been erased.

Instantly there was an uproar, and heated words were heard, charges and counter charges of fraud being made on all sides. When the scene became threatening and it seemed impossible to get the convention out of its tangle President Buchanan summarily dismissed the gathering, adjourning with out hour.

After the delegates had filed out into the street Delegate Parks and his followers held a conference on the sidewalk. "Our men," declared Mr. Parks with emphasis, "will not sit in a convention with Brophy, and if the convention insists upon seating him we will return to New York."

SCHWAB BLAMES LABOR.

Holds It Responsible For Troubles in the Industrial World.

Philadelphia, Sept. 26.—Exorbitant demands of labor, in the opinion of Charles M. Schwab, former head of the steel trust, are at present retarding industry.

Although this condition is manifest in many lines, it is most clearly seen in the building trade, in the decrease of which Mr. Schwab declares that there is no reason to expect industrial stagnation. The closing down of a mill here and there and the uncertainties that exist in the building trade, he says, do not indicate a deep seated condition that will mean an important slackening of the industry of the country.

"The industrial situation?" repeated Mr. Schwab, as a question was propounded to him. "Why, I am an optimist. Wall street does not reflect the industrial situation. I do not feel competent to pass on the causes for the Wall street depression. I am in the steel business. But I do know that they cannot and will not directly affect the industry of the country. It is true that there is a temporary diminution of the great volume of business that we have been doing, but that does not mean stagnation."

"Labor's exorbitant demands have done more than any other one thing to bring about this setback. This is especially true of the building trade. Of course, too, capital is not so free as it was."

Complication in Cripple Creek Strike.

Denver, Sept. 26.—The strike at Cripple Creek has taken on an international complication. Four Germans imported from Duluth to take strikers' places refused to go to work when they learned of conditions there and were placed in the military prison. Through the Western Federation of Miners they have now appealed to the German consul in Denver to place the matter before his government and ask that action be taken looking to redress for the men imprisoned.

Sargent on Illegal Immigration.

Washington, Sept. 26.—At the session of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor Mr. Sargent, commissioner general of immigration, outlined his views on the Chinese immigration laws and on the immigration of Japanese into the United States, Hawaii and the Philippines, with reference to the effect on general labor conditions. His views were asked for the guidance of the federation in its attitude toward any legislation on the subject.

Leading Denver Republican Dead.

Denver, Sept. 26.—Attorney Allen B. Seaman was found dead in bed at his home. Heart disease is given as the cause of his death. Mr. Seaman was elected city attorney under Mayor Van Horn, serving for two years. He was chairman of the Republican state committee for several years. During the recent charter campaign he strenuously opposed the adoption of the proposed charter, making speeches every night.

Date of Miss Bryan's Marriage.

Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 26.—The marriage of Miss Ruth Bryan and W. H. Leavitt of Newport will take place Saturday evening, Oct. 3, at 7:30 o'clock at Fairview, the home of the Bryans. Rev. Dr. Swearingen, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Bryan is a member, probably will perform the ceremony.

Prominent Railroad Man Dead.

Alfred, Me., Sept. 26.—Colonel E. B. Stoddard of Worcester, Mass., formerly president of the Worcester and Nashua railroad and a promoter of the Portland and Rochester railroad, which roads now constitute the Worcester, Nashua and Portland division of the Boston and Maine, is dead, the cause being apoplexy.

BISHOP POTTER'S CRITICISM.

A Protest Against Deceiving the Sick and Wrecking Lives.

Unusual comment has been caused by Bishop Potter's declaration that Maine's prohibition law is a failure when the sale of sarsaparilla and other so-called cures containing up to 61 per cent (over half) alcohol is unrestricted, while claret wine with only 10 per cent alcohol is barred out by law. As a matter of fact the majority of the wines of this, wines of that and other patent medicines sold in all states depend upon alcohol and stupefying drugs for their temporary effect. They lower the vitality, wreck the nerves, and often lead to an uncontrollable desire for

alcohol and nerve-deadening drugs. This is one of the principal reasons why doctors are opposed to patent medicines, and it is why we have repeatedly stated that without the use of alcohol or injurious drugs Father John's Medicine is the best remedy ever prescribed for building up those who are weak and run down, and for all throat and lung troubles. It makes strength and flesh, by which each organ of the body is enabled to do its proper work and thus drive the impurities out of the blood. Dr. A. H. Straub, a noted physician of Brooklyn, N. Y., adds his endorsement to the above in the following letter over his own signature: "I have frequently prescribed Father John's Medicine for grip, and for bronchitis and other respiratory diseases and found that it has cured when the regular pharmacopoeia remedies failed. (Signed) A. H. Straub, M. D., 284 Bushwick Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y." Fifty years in use—get it today. The money is refunded in any case where it does not do all that is claimed for it.

SHERIFF OVERPOWERED

Tennessee Mob Assaults Jail and Secures Negro Prisoner.

THEN SHOT HIM TO DEATH.

One of the Assaulting Party Was Badly Wounded by the Sheriff, Who Made Stubborn but Unsuccessful Resistance.

Lynchburg, Tenn., Sept. 26.—Sheriff George R. Davidson in attempting to save the life of a negro fired into a mob which was assaulting the jail, wounding a man whose name is unknown. The sheriff summoned assistance, but he and his aids were overpowered, the jail was entered and the much wanted negro, Allen Small, shot to death in the corridor. The mob was composed of about twenty-five people.

Sheriff Davidson was alone at the time. He refused to give up the keys and opened fire from a window. He wounded one of the mob, but his identity is not known. The sheriff then called for the police. Two officers and several citizens rushed to the jail, but despite their presence the mob battered down the wooden door at the foot of the stairs leading to the corridor.

Sheriff Made Stout Resistance.

The sheriff and posse made a stout resistance, but were unable to prevent the mob from breaking in the iron door at the head of the stairs and entering the cell occupied by the negro, about whose neck they placed a rope.

As soon as the men emerged from the cell it became apparent that the negro could not be taken from the jail and hung for fear of being fired on, and he was shot to death. The mob then made an effort to escape, but the sheriff and his guard captured three of them, and they are in jail. One of them, it is said, has made a confession implicating thirteen men in the affair.

Small was under arrest on the charge of assaulting Mrs. Eliza Eggleston, and at his preliminary hearing the warrant was amended as to charge a simple case of assault.

The negro had waived examination and was awaiting the action of the grand jury.

RECEIVER APPOINTED.

Action Taken by Security Holder in the Lake Superior Company.

Philadelphia, Sept. 26.—Announcement is made here that at the instance of Speyer & Co. of New York the Canadian courts have appointed B. F. Frackenthal, Jr., president of the Thomas Iron company of Easton, Pa., receiver of the Canadian subsidiary plants of the Consolidated Lake Superior company.

The receiver will have charge of all the plants of the company excepting the trans-St. Mary's Traction company and the Michigan Lake Superior Power company. Mr. Frackenthal was in this city, but would neither confirm nor deny his appointment as receiver. No one here knows the grounds upon which the appointment of a receiver was based, but it is said the receiver was secured to arrange for the payment of wages of the employees of the plants.

Creditors Want Their Money.

Toronto, Ont., Sept. 26.—The Central Trust company, trustees for Speyer & Co., have dispatched Lawyer Bicknell of Toronto to the Soo to take possession of the works of the Lake Superior company. Steps will be taken to take the title and sell the property. A representative of the syndicate wanted its money and that the taking possession of the industries would not interfere with the efforts of the company to consummate the reorganization plans.

Loss Not Serious.

Washington, Sept. 26.—Reports received at Southern railroad headquarters in this city concerning the fires at Greensboro, N. C., and Culpeper, Va., indicate that the losses were not very great. At Culpeper the station and two freight cars were destroyed, and at Greensboro an oil tank and two empty cars were burned.

Cuckoo Superstitions.

It is a popular superstition in England that whatever you are doing the first time you hear the cuckoo, that you will do most frequently all the year. Another is that an unmarried person will remain single as many years as the cuckoo when first heard utters its call.

JETT'S DAY OF DOOM.

Condemned to Be Hanged on the 18th of December.

Cynthiana, Ky., Sept. 26.—Curtis Jett was brought into court, when Judge Osborne decreed that he be hanged "between sunrise and sunset Dec. 18 for killing James Cockrill at Jackson, Ky., July 21, 1902."

Judge Blanton, attorney for Jett, replied, "Well, judge, there will be many sunrises and sunsets before he has been hanged."

Jett himself said to the court, "There are people in this county who will be grieved if I am not hanged, but, judge, I do not think you will be grieved, as you have given me a fair trial in this case."

When Judge Osborne said he would send the prisoner to another jail, Jett pleaded earnestly not to be returned to Lexington, Ky. Judge Blanton filed papers giving his grounds for a new trial preparatory to carrying the case to the court of appeals at Frankfort.

FOREIGNERS NOT INJURED.

Jews' Massacre at Comel a Closed Incident at Washington.

Washington, Sept. 26.—The following bulletin has been posted at the state department: The department of state has received advice from the American charge at St. Petersburg to the effect that in the Gomel riot eight Jews and five Christians lost their lives. Mr. Riddle says that no foreigners or foreign interests suffered.

In view of the position taken by the Russian government at the time of the Kishineff affair (that the imperial authorities would decline to receive foreign representations concerning domestic matters where no foreign interests were involved) the report of the American charge at St. Petersburg that no foreigners or foreign interests were jeopardized in the recent anti-Semitic riot at Gomel closes the incident so far as the state department is concerned.

Messenger Boys Win Strike.

Chicago, Sept. 26.—After noisy street demonstrations the 400 messenger boys of the Illinois District company ended their strike by accepting a new wage scale from their employers. The company also came to terms with the night messengers. The day boys, who went out in the morning, are to receive \$3.40 a week instead of a commission of 1½ cents for each message delivered. They had been earning more than a dollar a day, it is said, and struck for 2 cents a message. The night workers are to get a dollar a day in place of the \$5 a week formerly paid.

Sir Thomas in Bachelor Club.

Bay City, Mich.,